

Application No. 10/688,239 Amdt. dated December 9, 2005 Reply to Office Action of June 9, 2005



marginal areas and then provide them with filler, as suggested by the Examiner.

As an aside, the blocks strips 56A, identified by the Examiner, are formed on an existing brick by using a mold such as shown in FIG. 12, in a manner similar to overmolding in plastic articles. The strips are not added after a wall has been constructed. Instead, they are integrally formed on the bricks before they are used to construct a wall.

It is respectfully submitted that the claim 30 is not obvious in view of Zagray in view of Dawson, Aaronson, and further in view of Sherwood, and Applicant respectfully requests that rejection of the claim under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) be withdrawn and passed to issue or, in the alternative, reconsidered and further examined.

CONCLUSION

On the basis of the foregoing amendments, remarks, and arguments of record, applicant respectfully submits that claims 1-35 are in condition for allowance and Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. Alternatively, if the Examiner is of the opinion that prosecution of the application may be expedited by a telephonic interview, the Examiner is invited to contact applicant's representative at the telephone number listed below.

> Respectfully submitted, For the Applicant(s) By his/her/their Attorneys,

Customer Number

22854

MOORE, HANSEN & SUMNER 225 South Sixth Street

Suite 4850

Minneapolis, Minnesota 55402 Telephone: (612) 332-8200

Facsimile: (612) 332,1780

Date December 9, 2005

ames R. Hakomak dames R. Hakomaki

Reg. No. 35,037

By: